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Atty. Dkt. No. 300.0007 (ATT/2002-0415)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 3~~ A system for termination of support for session initiation protocol communications on a server, comprising:

a server supporting communications with a client conforming to session initiation protocol, said client directly linked to a plurality of servers;

means for setting a time period for terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server;

means for sending a service unavailable message to said client, in response said client providing support for communications with a different server;

means for causing said server to maintain support, until no later than the expiration of said time period for terminating support, for uncompleted session initiation protocol invites accepted by said server before sending said service unavailable message to said client; and

means for terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server no later than upon expiration of said time period for terminating support, in which said server comprises means for informing said client of said time period for terminating support together with said service unavailable message and said client comprises means for deleting said server from a list of stream control transmission protocol associations until expiration of said time period for terminating support.

Claims 8-13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 10, comprising the step of~~ A method for termination of support for session initiation protocol communications on a server, comprising the steps of:

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establishing communications between a server and a client conforming to session initiation protocol, said client directly linked to a plurality of servers;

setting a time period for terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server;

sending a service unavailable message to said client, in response said client providing support for communications with a different server;

causing said server to maintain support, until no later than the expiration of said time period for terminating support, for uncompleted session initiation protocol invites accepted by said server before sending said service unavailable message to said client;

terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server no later than upon expiration of said time period for terminating support;

informing said client of said time period for terminating support together with said service unavailable message; and

deleting said server from a client list of stream control transmission protocol associations until expiration of said time period for terminating support.

Claims 15-19 (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The medium of claim 17, in which said steps comprise~~ A computer-readable storage medium whose contents cause a computer system to perform steps of a termination of support for session initiation protocol communications on a server, said steps comprising:

establishing communications between a server and a client conforming to session initiation protocol, said client directly linked to a plurality of servers;

setting a time period for terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server;

sending a service unavailable message to said client, in response said client providing support for communications with a different server;

causing said server to maintain support, until no later than the expiration of said time period for terminating support, for uncompleted session initiation protocol invites accepted by said server before sending said service unavailable message to said client;

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terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on said server
no later than upon expiration of said time period for terminating support;

informing said client of said time period for terminating support together with said
service unavailable message; and

deleting said server from a client list of stream control transmission protocol
associations until expiration of said time period for terminating support.